



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Raymond Hanson Jr., D.O.B. 9/4/72, of Merrill, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 180 months in federal prison, without parole, for conspiracy to manufacture, distribute, and possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine. Hanson pleaded guilty to this charge on May 20, 2005.

In November 2002, law enforcement received information that the defendant was manufacturing and distributing methamphetamine in Lincoln and Marathon counties. Numerous individuals provided information that they were purchasing ingredients and assisting the defendant with cooking methamphetamine from April 2002 to December 2004. In May 2005, Hanson was apprehended by law enforcement and admitted to manufacturing large quantities of methamphetamine in Lincoln County.

This defendant is the latest to be sentenced as part of an ongoing investigation into methamphetamine manufacturing and distribution in the Lincoln County area being conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation - Narcotics Bureau, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, the Marathon County Sheriff's Department, the Wausau Police Department, the Merrill

Police Department, and the North Central Drug Enforcement Group. The investigation has also resulted in the convictions of: (1) Joseph Busterud, D.O.B. 7/26/63, who was sentenced to 105 months in federal prison on July 1, 2005; (2) Jessica Henderson, D.O.B. 3/11/75, who sentenced to 116 months on July 1, 2005; (3) Michael Bohman, D.O.B. 4/11/75, who was sentenced to 121 months in federal prison on April 21, 2005; and (4) Jon Shaw, D.O.B. 2/26/76, who was sentenced to 96 months in federal prison on February 7, 2005. Prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney David J. Reinhard.

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